

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 310550
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-06 IO-13 INR-07 /037 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:DKUX
APPROVED BY OES:MKRATZER
-----240143Z 115259 /62
P 232359Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL BOMBAY PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, IN

SUBJECT: TARAPUR

1. DECEMBER 21, STATE (KRATZER), ACDA AND ERDA REPS HAD
INFORMAL MEETING WITH NRC TO REVIEW STATE OF PLAY ON
TARAPUR DISCUSSIONS. ON NRC SIDE, ONLY THREE COMMISSIONERS
WERE PRESENT AS ROWDEN WAS OUT OF COUNTRY.

2. KRATZER REVIEWED COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS SO FAR, NOTING
THAT IT WAS NOW CLEAR GOI WAS PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO
RETURN SPENT FUEL FROM TARAPUR TO THE US. KRATZER
INDICATED THAT NO AGREEMENT WAS YET REACHED ON FINANCING.

HOWEVER, ERDA NOW FELT THAT OPTIONS OTHER THAN
BUYBACK (BECAUSE OF TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL DISADVANTAGES
OF THIS APPROACH) SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ON USG SIDE. BRIEF
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DISCUSSION FOLLOWED ON POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS
SUGGESTED BY ERDA--EXPANDED STORAGE OF FUEL IN INDIA,
INTERNATIONALIZATION OF REPROCESSING PLANT, ETC. BUT NO
CONCLUSIONS REACHED.

3. REVIEW OF SITUATION WAS PRELIMINARY IN NATURE AND IT
WAS AGREED THAT STATE, ERDA AND ACDA REPS WOULD MEET AGAIN

WITH NRC DURING FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY WHEN ROWDEN WOULD
BE BACK AND ALSO WHEN ERDA WOULD BE ABLE TO PRESENT ITS

VIEWS IN MORE DETAILED FASHION. ONE POINT ON WHICH ALL
HANDS APPEARED TO AGREE WAS NEED FOR EARLY USG DECISION
ON PENDING LICENSE. KRATZER REPORTED THAT USG EXPERTS
HAD ESTABLISHED DURING VISIT TO INDIA LAST SUMMER THAT
ADDITIONAL FUEL SUPPLY WAS NEEDED AT FABRICATING PLANT
NO LATER THAN MAY 1977.
KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARAPUR, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, NUCLEAR FUELS, FISSIONABLE MATERIALS TRANSFER
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE310550
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DKUX
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760471-0860
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761215/aaaaamyb.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <16 JUN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TARAPUR
TAGS: TECH, IN, US
To: BOMBAY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006